

Thank God for a beautiful and successful day and Thank you, our Picnic Committee - Peter, Joanne, and Bob for your dedication and hard work; and to all of the many, many volunteers who put in countless hours behind the scenes, whether in the kitchen, cutting meat, on the grills, under the tent or clean-up crew. It takes team work to make our picnics successful and your commitment and hard work speaks volumes. God Bless You All!!!

Save the Date!!!

God willing, we will be celebrating the 59th Anniversary of our Church this year. On October 30th H.E. Archbishop Oshagan will celebrate the Divine Liturgy and ordain Raffi Samkiranian to the rank of Deacon. Following the service, we will have a banquet at Pleasant Valley Country Club. Stay tuned for more details.

Ladies Guild

First meeting will be on Saturday, September 10th. We welcome new prospective members and friends to join our meetings at any time! For more information, contact Carol Bedrosian, Ladies Guild Chair at 508-278-9178/carol.bedrosian@gmail.com

CATHOLICOS ARAM I: CELEBRATING TWENTY YEARS OF SERVICE

The more than two decades of visionary leadership of His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Holy See of the Great House of Cilicia, will be marked on Sunday, October 9. The celebratory day will begin with a Pontifical Divine Liturgy at Sts.

Vartanantz Church in Ridgefield, New Jersey, celebrated by His Holiness. A banquet and anniversary celebration will follow in the afternoon at the Teaneck Marriott. For information/reservations contact the Prelacy office: 212-689-7810.

The Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church in Whitinsville will host a clothing swap on Saturday, September 10 from 9am to 11am. We accept gently used men's, women's and kid's clothing, shoes and accessories. No rips or stains please. Items can be dropped off the night before between 6 and 7pm or the morning of the swap. You don't have to take anything home in order to donate and you don't have to donate in order to take anything home. Use the driveway between Domino's Pizza and the law office and come in the church's back door. Everything is free and open to the public. Please email edalynne@hotmail.com or call Christine at 508-234-8131 if you need more information.

Crop Hunger Walk, Saturday, October 15, 9:00 AM Details to follow.

Hokehankisd (Requiem Service)

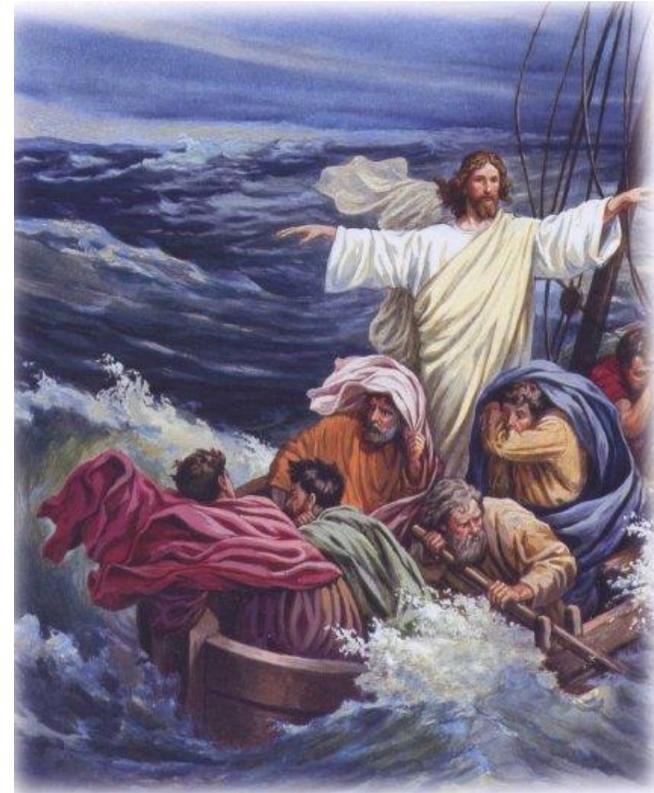
The Armenian Church instructs the faithful not to forget their loved ones who are fallen asleep in Christ. The Scripture says,

"The memory of the righteous will be a blessing (Proverbs 10:7)

Hokehankisd is performed at the end of Badarak, during which special prayers are said on behalf of the souls who are fallen asleep in Christ Jesus. The church advises us to request Hokehankisd **seven** and **forty days** after a person is deceased and thereafter annually.

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SUNDAY BULLETIN



August 28, 2016

THE STORM

Celebrant Rev. Fr. Mikael Der Kosroffian

EPISTLE: 2 Corinthians 1:3-11

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ. If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance of the same sufferings we suffer. And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort.

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about the troubles we experienced in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt we had received the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead. He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us again. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us, as you help us by your prayers. Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gracious favor granted us in answer to the prayers of many.

The order of the Readings for this week is as follows:

TODAY: Is 9:8-19; 2 Cor 1:1-11; Mk 4:35-40
Monday: Prv 10:1-7; Is 44:24-26; Heb 4:11-15; Mt 5:1-12
Tuesday: Ez 18:30-32; 1 Cor 2:6-10; Mt 23:34-39
Wednesday: 2 Cor 3:4-17, Mk 6:45-56
Thursday: Prv 20:6-22; Jb 42:12-17; Lam 3:22-56; Acts 13:25-33;
Jas 5:7-11; Mt 14:1-12
Friday: 2 Cor 5:6-18; Mk 7:24-30
Saturday: Ez 44:23-24; Heb 12:1-7; Jn 14:25-31

We Welcome Visitors and Hope You Enjoy Worshipping with Us. Please sign the *Guest Book* in the foyer. If there is anything we can do for you, please let us know or fill in the welcome cards that are in the pew racks in front of you and leave in the office or foyer.

Do you want to have God pleasing faith? You cannot unless you give time to study the Bible, because “....**FAITH COMES FROM HEARING THE MESSAGE AND THE MESSAGE IS HEARD THROUGH THE WORD OF CHRIST.**”
Romans 10:17

Dismissal

At the end of the Divine Liturgy, the faithful come forward towards the altar and kiss the Holy Gospel, saying:

“May the Lord be mindful of your sacrifices and accept your supplications.”

The Celebrant Responds:

“May the Lord grant to you according to your heart and fulfill all your wishes.”

Visit our website for updated Church News www.armenianchurchofwhit.org

THE STORM

In today’s reading from the Gospel of Mark, chapter 4:35-41, we learn just how strong the faith of the disciples really was.

It had been a long day for Jesus, He had been teaching, and at the end of the day He said to His disciples, “*Let us go over to the other side*”.

They set sail. They encounter the storm, they are frightened and turn to Jesus for help. And how did Jesus respond? He said to his disciples, “*Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?*”

It’s safe to assume that by this time the disciples had seen other miracles that Jesus had performed so He asks them, after all that you’ve seen, you still have no faith?

Jesus' comment to His disciples before they embarked on the boat trip was very simple, and very clear: His comment was '*Let us go over to the other side*' Clearly, He didn't say 'let's get into this boat and perish' or 'let's take a trip into the sea and die'. The disciples should have realized that no matter how fierce the storm was; they would definitely get to the other side SIMPLY because Jesus had said so.

There are some of us who panic when issues arise and there are those who are calm in the face of trouble; there are those who doubt the promise of God when tragedy occurs and there are those who have quietness in the midst of a storm. Paul writes in Romans 8:28 “*And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.*”

Many Christians recite this scripture easily but do not understand its’ meaning. 'We know that all things work together for good' but do they really KNOW? Do we really KNOW? The truth is that people who KNOW, don’t worry or focus on the trouble; people who KNOW don’t get skeptical when tragedy occurs. People who really KNOW, turn to Christ.

It is not just about being able to recite Bible verses, it is about knowing and letting it saturate into our spirit; it is about you anchoring your spirit on the unfailing word of God.

We must remember to have faith in Jesus. The disciples panicked, their level of faith was low and St. Paul is reminding us today that “*The God of all comfort, will comfort us in all our troubles.*”

We forget the truth of who God really is. If He were here today and asked each one of us the same question, “Have you still no faith?” What would our answer be?

When discouragements come we need to remember who our God is and remember what He does, for us and through us. We must put our faith in Jesus because He is always there, His love, His peace, His patience and kindness has, is and always will be there! Amen.